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the State's or Indian Tribe's submission and provide for public comment. The Director will then:

- (1) Evaluate any comments received;
- (2) Determine whether the funding meets the requirements of this part;
- (3) Determine whether the funding is in the best interest of the State or Indian tribe AML program;
- (4) If the determinations under paragraphs (f)(2) and (f)(3) of this section are positive, approve the request for funding the activity or construction; and
- (5) Approve funding under paragraph (f)(4) of this section only at a cost commensurate with its benefits towards achieving the purposes of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.

[59 FR 28173, May 31, 1994, as amended at 68 FR 9502, Feb. 27, 2003]

§875.16 Exclusion of certain noncoal reclamation sites.

- (a) You, the uncertified State or Indian tribe, may not use moneys from the Fund or from prior balance replacement funds provided under §872.29 of this chapter for the reclamation of sites and areas designated for remedial action under the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 7901 et seq.) or that have been listed for remedial action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.).
- (b) You, the certified State or Indian tribe, may not reclaim sites and areas designated for remedial action under the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 7901 et seq.) or that have been listed for remedial action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) using—
- (1) Moneys distributed from the Fund under section 402(g)(1) of the Act.
- (2) Prior balance replacement funds distributed to you under section 411(h)(1) of the Act where you are conducting reclamation under the provisions of this part.
- (3) Certified in lieu funds distributed to you under section 411(h)(2) of the

Act where you are conducting reclamation under the provisions of this part.

[73 FR 67640, Nov. 14, 2008, as amended at 80 FR 6446, Feb. 5, 2015]

§875.17 Land acquisition authority—noncoal.

The requirements of parts 877 (Rights of Entry) and 879 (Acquisition, Management and Disposition of Lands and Water) of this chapter apply to a State's or Indian tribe's noncoal reclamation projects conducted under this part, except that, for purposes of this section, the term "noncoal" replaces all references to "coal" in parts 877 and 879 of this chapter.

[80 FR 6446, Feb. 5, 2015]

§875.18 Lien requirements.

The lien requirements found in part 882—Reclamation on Private Land shall apply to a State's or Indian tribe's noncoal reclamation program under section 411 of the Act, except that for purposes of this section, references made to coal shall not apply. In lieu of the term coal, the word noncoal should be used.

[59 FR 28173, May 31, 1994]

§875.19 Limited liability.

No State or Indian tribe conducting noncoal reclamation activities under the provisions of this part is liable under any provision of Federal law for any costs or damages as a result of action taken or omitted in the course of carrying out an approved State or Indian tribe abandoned mine reclamation plan. This section does not preclude liability for costs or damages as a result of gross negligence or intentional misconduct by the State or Indian tribe. For purposes of the preceding sentence, reckless, willful, or wanton misconduct will constitute gross negligence or intentional misconduct.

[80 FR 6446, Feb. 5, 2015]

§875.20 Contractor eligibility.

Every successful bidder for any contract by an uncertified State or Indian tribe under this part, or for any contract by a certified State or Indian tribe to undertake a noncoal reclamation project under this part, must be